

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Texas Motor Speedway for celebrating 10 successful years of racing. The facility is located in the heart of North Texas, between Fort Worth and Denton in the 26th District of Texas.

The Texas Motor Speedway has hosted several NASCAR, Indy Racing League, and other prestigious motor sport races since its inaugural year in 1997. Millions of enthusiastic fans have flocked to enjoy the modern racing and entertainment facilities at one of the fastest tracks in the Nation.

The Texas Motor Speedway has a tremendous impact on the North Texas economy by bringing millions of dollars to businesses, hotels, restaurants, and attractions in the area. The Speedway continues to exceed predictions of its regional economic impact each year.

As an avid racing fan, I regularly attend events at the Texas Motor Speedway. I am pleased to have such a fine facility in the North Texas community, and I proudly boast of its accomplishments on my Congressional Web site. In addition to hosting races, the Texas Motor Speedway also supports a number of worthy charities in the North Texas community.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Texas Motor Speedway for 10 distinguished years of serving the racing and Texas communities. I look forward to many more.

A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR SERGIO DE GREGORIO HONORABLE ROBERT A. BRADY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our colleague from the Republic of Italy, the Honorable Sergio De Gregorio.

Senator De Gregorio was elected Senator of the Republic of Italy on April 10th, 2006. As President of the Defense Committee for the Republic of Italy, Senator De Gregorio is one of the most important national security officials in one of our most important allied states.

Prior to his election to the Senate, Mr. De Gregorio served as a pioneering journalist who produced many important reports on organized crime, various wars and conflicts in almost every corner of the world. He further established his international credentials during his tenure as Assistant to European Parliament, a position he held until 2004.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Philadelphia is proud to host Senator De Gregorio and 15 distinguished Italian delegates, including four members of his committee: Hon. Paolo Guzzanti; Hon. Filippo Berselli; Hon. Calogero Mannino; and Hon. Gianni Nieddu, as well as Princess Josephine Pritchard Borghese and Hon. Salvatore Ferrigno, to Philadelphia for a

four-day tour of the city and its various Italian American businesses, factories and importers. Their visit will also include three events to raise funds for the construction of an Italian American Cultural Center to be located in Northeast Philadelphia.

The Republic of Italy has long been a critically important ally in the fight against terrorism and against organized crime. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am pleased that this important delegation will be touring defense facilities in my District. And, as a son of Italy, I am equally proud that they will be doing so much to help us create the Italian American Cultural Center. I know that all of my colleagues will join me in welcoming them to the United States.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP-ELECT
RANDALL E. HOLTS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Bishop-Elect Randall E. Holts on the occasion of his recent election and appointment as Bishop last Sunday, November 12, 2006. He is currently serving as the senior Pastor of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Miami.

Deeply devoted to his vocation, Bishop Holts has spearheaded many spiritual revival symposia that have enlightened the community through his insightful theological teachings and preaching of God's Word. Guided by the motto, "Building Strong Families for the 21st Century," he has admirably paved the way for a clearer understanding and deeper commitment on the part of his Congregation toward the Sacred Scriptures.

In 1997, he formed a leadership team that focused on the emergence of the "New Hope Development Center, Inc.," a 501c3 non-profit corporation, to ensure self-sufficiency of families through economic empowerment to enhance the quality of life of both Church members and other people from surrounding neighborhoods. Indeed, it is fitting and proper to give praise to Almighty God for blessing this Church with the longevity of Bishop-Elect Holt's service to his Congregation, and to all those who seek comfort and solace in its Church Sanctuary.

A native of Miami, Florida, Bishop-Elect Holts obtained his early education from the Miami-Dade County Public Schools and went on to get his Bachelor's degree in 1976 from the University of Florida's School of Business majoring in Banking and Finance. He worked in the banking profession for the next 20 years, for which he obtained praise and tribute from his colleagues. As he retired from his professional banking ventures, he committed his full-time service as Pastor of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. He now also serves on the Board of Directors for North Shore Medical Center, as well as on the Collective Banking Group of Miami-Dade & Vicinity, and other community-based organizations.

He is married to Prophetess Sharlene Denise Holts and has been blessed in this Holy Matrimony for over 30 years. Three children were born out of this happy union—Shontel, Ericka and Randall II—along with two

grandsons, Jaelyn and Justin. He has led his Church with a good mixture of old-time religion and civic responsibility that continues to strengthen the members, not only to become spiritual and moral leaders, but also responsible and conscientious guardians of good government and civic pride.

Indeed, his inspiring leadership is genuinely admirable. As a servant of God and as a spiritual leader he has earned the community's deepest respect. This is the legacy with which he now guides his Church, and I extend to him my heartfelt congratulations.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO E. STEVEN
SMITH

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of E. Steven Smith, who passed away on Monday, October 16, 2006.

Dr. Smith, a leader in forensic dentistry, was the founding dean of the UNLV School of Dental Medicine, the first dental school in the State of Nevada. He oversaw the school's founding from 1999 until 2002, when the first students entered the school.

When he moved to Las Vegas to lead the dental school, Dr. Smith began volunteering his time and expertise with the Clark County coroner's office in examining dental records. His efforts often provided closure for family members who may otherwise not have known the fate of a missing loved one.

Dr. Smith was also the founder of the Crackdown on Cancer Initiative. This body would travel to schools throughout Nevada to warn students about the effects of tobacco on the mouth, providing an invaluable public service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of E. Steven Smith. Under his leadership, Nevada now has a world class institution for Dental Medicine education. His amalgamation of professional success and community activism is exemplary. He will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATING MAYOR WALTER CONWAY UPON BEING NAMED "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR" BY THE DELAWARE WATER GAP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Walter Conway, mayor of Delaware Water Gap, Monroe County, Pennsylvania.

Mayor Conway has been named "Citizen of the Year" by the Delaware Water Gap Chamber of Commerce and will be honored at an award dinner Tuesday, Oct. 17, at the Water Gap Country Club.

A graduate of St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Mayor Conway and his wife, Cathy, have two children, Cathleen Conway and Mrs. Wendy Scott.

Mayor Conway is a veteran of the United States Army, having served in Vietnam where he distinguished himself and was the recipient of numerous medals and commendations.

Mayor Conway began his community involvement in Delaware Water Gap in 1997 as a member of the Planning Commission. He has been chairman of the Planning Commission since June, 2004. During this time, he has been instrumental in revising numerous zoning ordinances.

Mayor Conway is active in the Delaware Water Gap Chamber of Commerce and is the backbone of the current annual golf tournament. He also sponsors a Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament.

Mayor Conway has obtained over \$485,000 in grant money for the borough and other related organizations, such as the Antoine Dutot Museum, the police department and the fire department.

And even though he resides in the borough's flood zone, he is well known for helping his neighbors even before he works on his own home. He also coordinates all flood recovery efforts.

He was a past member and president of the Kittatiny Lions Club. He is currently a veteran member of the Kiwanis Club. He served as Lt. Governor for Division 17 in 1993 for the Pennsylvania District of Kiwanis International. He was also a recipient of the Pennsylvania Kiwanis International Keystone Award.

For the past 15 years, he has been involved with golf tournament fund raising for the Geisinger Children's Heart Program. He is also active with the Children's Miracle Network.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mayor Conway on this happy occasion. His commitment and service to the Borough of Delaware Water Gap has greatly enriched the quality of life in that community.

TRIBUTE TO THE VAQUEROS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, whereas, the Vaqueros are the true original cowboys of South Texas, and they were an essential part of the early ranching industry in Jim Hogg County.

Whereas, Vaqueros were renowned for their exemplary ranching and stock-handling skills, which were needed for the development of ranches and without them, the ranching industry would not have developed to the State it is today.

Whereas, the skills and the ranching practices shown by the vaqueros have left a lasting impact on modern ranching. The equipment of the vaquero—saddle, chaps, bandana, lasso, and spurs—has become the standard gear of all Texas cowboys.

Whereas, the first ranches founded in the area with the help of the vaqueros were Randado, Las Noriacitas, Las Animas, San Antonio Viejo, Las Emamadas, Las Viboritas, El Baluarte, and San Javier. Some of these ranches are still held by descendants of the original owners such as Randado, which was visited by General Robert E. Lee during the Civil War.

Whereas, ranching remains one of the vital elements of the economy in Jim Hogg County, and the City of Hebbronville is located on the land that once was a part of the Las Noriacitas Ranch. W.R. Hebbron, the town's namesake, established the city along the route of the Texas Mexican Railway in 1883.

Be it hereby resolved, That Congressman HENRY CUELLAR, in representing the 28th Congressional District of the State of Texas, commends the City of Hebbronville on its celebration of the history of the vaquero on November 4, 2006.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA WILLIAMS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Patricia Williams, a community leader and entrepreneur. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding woman and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive service.

Born to the Honorable Kathryn Williams and the late James Williams, Patricia Williams credits living and growing up in evolving neighborhoods like Harlem, Bedford Stuyvesant and East New York as an inspiration to work for social and economical change.

Ms. Williams knows hard work is an investment. She currently is the President/CEO of Ecotech Enterprises, Inc., a firm she established to provide consultant services to government agencies, private sector corporations, and small, minority-owned business enterprises. In the past, Ms. Williams provided community outreach and event planning for the Brooklyn Museum of Art Construction Project. She has delivered bottom line services such as marketing and sales to well known small businesses and she provides fundraising and workshop development assistance to several non-profits. Ms. Williams has been called upon as a panelist and guest speaker on numerous occasions and is considered an authority on business development.

Prior to starting her own consulting firm, Ms. Williams was executive Director of the Minority Business Opportunity Center under the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency where she provided business services to more than 70,000 minority/women-owned and small businesses. As senior Administrator of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity for Morse Diesel International, she successfully implemented policies to ensure 100 million dollars of contracting opportunities for minority-owned and small businesses where she exceeded labor force and contracting goals set for women and minority skilled workers at JFK Airport's Terminal 4 construction project. She was Senior Employment Specialist and Career Development Instructor for Non-Traditional Community College, Operations Manager for Madison Avenue firm Durham Temporaries Inc., and has several years of experience at the U.S. Small Business Administration, Finance Division.

Ms. Williams attended John Jay College where she majored in Criminal Justice and Labor Law. Her work has not gone unnoticed. Ms. Williams has been recognized by several government agencies and community organi-

zations. She is also the recipient of the Columbia University Non-Profit Executive Management Scholarship. Ms. Williams is the proud mother of two, Leah and John.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Patricia Williams. Her deep commitment to her community makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS WITH THE EVERMAN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Everman Independent School District as they celebrate their 100th anniversary of providing quality education for its students. The Everman School District has been a fixture in southwest Fort Worth since 1906.

The School district was first established in 1906 when the Enon School and the Antioch School consolidated to make the Everman School. After the merger the School district prospered, experiencing massive growth in the community as well as the student body population.

During its 100-year history, Everman ISD has earned state and national recognition in academics, athletics, fine arts, leadership, and service disciplines.

The mission of Everman Independent School District is to provide all students with an educational program which allows them to develop their full potential intellectually, physically, and socially in order to be responsible citizens and contributing members of society. With a century of success behind them, I am more than confident that Everman ISD will continue to educate and inspire the young adults that walk the halls of their schools.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand here today and honor the 100th anniversary of the Everman Independent School District for their dedication and continuing commitment to education in Everman, Texas.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH J. FLEISHER, ESQ.

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a man who personifies the finest traditions of the legal profession. Kenneth J. Fleisher is a Philadelphia native. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Yale University and a cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School.

For more than a decade he has been a member of the prestigious law firm Zarwin, Baum, DeVito, Kaplan, Schaer, Toddy, P.C. in Philadelphia.

He also serves as the chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Real Property Section.

In spite of his impeccable legal credentials I did not meet Mr. Fleisher in a board room, at a big ticket gala or as the attorney of record